



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 9, 2006

H.R. 5136

National Integrated Drought Information System Act of 2006

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on June 7, 2006

SUMMARY

H.R. 5136 would direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish an integrated drought information system within the National Weather Service. The new system would provide early warnings of droughts by collecting and disseminating information and would coordinate federal research on this subject. The bill would authorize the appropriation of between \$11 million and \$16 million a year over the 2007-2012 period.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5136 would cost \$4 million in 2007 and \$55 million over the 2007-2011 period. (An additional \$26 million would be spent after 2011, including \$16 million authorized to be appropriated for 2012.) CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

H.R. 5136 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 5136 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	11	12	13	14	15	16
Estimated Outlays	4	11	12	14	14	15

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 5136 will be enacted by the beginning of fiscal year 2007 and that the entire amounts authorized for the drought information system will be appropriated for each year. Outlays for the new system have been estimated on the basis of spending patterns for similar NOAA programs.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 5136 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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